

the interpretation of his dream, the butler and the baker of the king of Egypt, which were bound in the prison.

6 And Joseph came in unto them in the morning, and looked upon them, and, behold, they were sad.

7 And he asked Pharaoh's officers that were with him in the ward of his lord's house, saying, Wherefore look ye so sadly to day?

8 And they said unto him, We have dreamed a dream, and there is no interpreter of it. And Joseph said unto them, Do not interpretations belong to God? tell me them, I pray you.

There were certain wise men whose business it was to interpret dreams, but these two men being in prison had no access to an interpreter, and hence they were sad. They had no way of determining the meaning of their dreams. Joseph observed their sad countenances and made inquiry as to the cause. In this way he learned what their dreams were and interpreted them. Note that Joseph always attributed the power of interpretation to God, and never made any claim of such power within himself. The butler's dream signified that he was to be restored, while the baker was to be hanged. As a favor Joseph asked that the butler when released from prison would kindly remember him to the king and if possible procure his release. This is the only instance where Joseph seems to have been dissatisfied with his lot and longed for release. (1) Joseph showed his sympathy for his fellow prisoners by asking what troubled them. We should always be ready to comfort others when we find them in sorrow. (2) Joseph honored God before those heathen men. He told them that interpretations belonged to God. He gave them to understand that whatever good thing he might bring them was given him by the Lord. This was another mark of Joseph's piety. (3) How quickly some people forget their benefactors. Joseph asked that the chief butler might remember him to the king. He promised to do so, "yet did not the chief butler remember Joseph, but forgot him." That is the way of too many. Their gratitude fades out when its occasion is past. (4) The one secret of Joseph's success in life was his simple trust in God. He believed God and trusted him.

Terse Teachings

Only a trustful life can be successful.

The prison may prove the way to the throne.

When God is with us everything is important.

Faithfulness in little things is the only way to great things.

We cannot help being tempted, but we can help yielding to temptation.

Whatever our lot in life may be we should do our duty and keep sweet.

Cheerfulness in hard conditions and in trying circumstances is of great value.

We never know what place the little incidents in our common life may have in our future.

To Make You Think

(1) In what way was Joseph's life in prison a blessing to him? (2) Can you see two ways in which it helped him in after life? (3) What was God's part and what was Joseph's in making prison life a blessing to him and to others? (4) What lessons could Joseph learn from the two prisoners that would help him in after life? (5) What qualities do you note in Joseph during his stay in prison? (6) What lessons can you find here which will help you? (7) Did Joseph prosper because he trusted in God or did he trust God because he prospered? (8) Was Joseph's promotion a matter of luck? (9) Was it right that Joseph should ask the chief butler to remember him to Pharaoh? (10) What was the real secret of Joseph's success and favor?

Thou hast given so much to me,
Give one thing more, a grateful heart,
Not thankful when it pleaseth me,
As if thy blessings had spare days;
But such a heart whose pulse may be
Thy praise.

—George Herbert.

Missions

Our Mission Work

IMPORTANT

Circumstances compel me to make a plain statement and that is that there has no money come in during the last two months to support our general mission work. Since the first of August there has but about eight dollars come into my hands and about the same amount into Bro. Talley's.

I have already advanced one hundred dollars on the general account and before this notice is published I must send my check for \$62.50 to Washington for the interest due on the church property there.

This is more than can be expected from any secretary, and at this season of the year after a long dull season in my private business it becomes a burden. Besides this there is money needed, several hundred dollars to get the Chicago church in shape to be occupied, the repairs are going on and the bills must be paid at once.

I simply make this plain statement of the condition of things and have no doubt that the friends of missions will at once liberally respond because it is urgent; and the Lord has given you the means to do it with.

This is the time of the feast of Tabernacles or harvest home season, a time when every heart ought to seek some way of expressing his gratitude to God for His continued and multiplied gifts of spiritual and material things.

Now let there be a substantial response so as to alleviate the present condition of things.

There will be no separate report for August but I will embody the August receipts in the September report.

JACOB C. CASSEL, SEC. M. B. OF B. C.

Chicago Mission

The work is moving nicely. Our Sunday School is growing every week, and more than strength in numbers, for spiritual development and solidity is the genuine mark of religious growth.

The workmen have now the main audience room all painted two coats, and are doing the stenciling on the Church. Then there is the two class rooms to paint yet, and the baptistry to put in; then comes the cleaning. All of us are looking forward to the time when we can worship in our own Church house; a building dedicated forever to the service of the Lord. We are aiming to get into our new Church home as soon as possible, and thus stop the expense of rent. We need some means to accomplish this; so far I have paid most of the expense out of my personal account. When the building is ready to dedicate public announcement of the fact will be published thru the EVANGELIST, and invitations sent out to all our friends, and we hope many of those who live near especially may be with us.

Our friends will take note that we have moved our residence to the parsonage, and our address is now 1080 W. Polk Street.

We are easily reached via the Harrison car lines, Taylor Street, of 12th street car lines. Or the Metropolitan Elevated, Western Avenue Station. Pray the blessing of God on the work here.

J. O. TALLEY.

1080 Polk St. Chicago, Ill.

From the National Capital

Brother L. P. Grossnickle, of Mapleville, Maryland, seems to have contracted the habit of sharing with others the good things of life. And he believes in giving the best quality, too. The latest expression of this kind is a crate of peaches. The young "Lyons" fairly roared when the crate was opened and they made a "joyful noise" on account thereof. And their joy was not shared alone. We all enjoyed the treat very much, and after "sampling" a few of them, the others were disposed of for future use. Such expressions of kindness and thoughtfulness on the part of our friends we always appreciate and especially the motive that prompts the gift. These things declare plainly, "We are living for others." The full blessing comes from asking, (John 16:24) but the overflowing blessing comes from giving. Luke 6:38.

But I would not have any person get the idea that we cannot enjoy anything that does not come in the shape of a present, or something tangible for physical needs. All are not always able to give no matter how much they may desire to do so. But all can pray for us, and can perhaps now and then write as a few words of good cheer and comfort. In fact, if we are really children of God, we are here to comfort one another. Just now I can recall a number of instances of this kind. They have done my soul incalculable good. One instance I wish to make special mention of. One faithful and true veteran of the cross has written me again and again, expressing his earnest desire for the success of the Lord's cause in this city, and when I tell you that for the last few years he has been almost totally blind, (he is now about ninety years of age) you can readily see why his letters have done me so much good. And still he writes with his own hand. True, he has several times contributed financially toward the work, tho he is in moderate circumstances, but when he cannot do this he makes it his invariable practice to write now and then and express his continued interest in the work. And from those letters written by this aged servant of the blessed Jesus I can easily see that he is also in direct communication with our Divine Representative in the Upper Sanctuary. His physical vision has almost entirely failed him, but the spiritual eye sees more and more clearly every day. I could speak of others of the same kind had I the time. Many times my heart has been much refreshed by messages from those who are isolated from all church privileges, but who know what it is to be in touch with God.

Perhaps there are some who may read these lines who cannot often meet with God's